

ANACONDA Aluminum Division
Columbia Falls Reduction Plant
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by mel ruder

A third generation Anaconda employee, Bob Sneddon, 58, is manager of reduction operations for the Anaconda Company's aluminum division with responsibility for plants in Columbia Falls and Sebree, Ky.

His grandfather, Robert M. Sneddon, emigrant from Scotland, became a coal miner on Anaconda property at Oakley in southwestern Wyoming. His father, William retired as chief clerk at the Great Falls plant.

Bob was born at Oakley, and in 1939 was graduated from high school at Soda Springs, Idaho. At the time his father was chief clerk for phosphate operations at nearby Conda.

In 1942 he received a mechanical engineering degree from Polytechnic College of Engineering at Oakland, Calif. That same year he and Eleanor Dibble were married at Berkeley, Calif. That same year he went into the U.S. Army. Following military service he enrolled at Montana State University, Bozeman, earning an industrial engineering degree.

Employment with the Anaconda Company started in 1950 at the Anaconda reduction works followed by two years with the company in Chile, and in 1954 back to Montana and the Columbia Falls plant not yet into production. Bob was assistant

mechanical superintendent.

Columbia Falls was home for the Sneddons except for seven years when he was assigned to work with designers of the new Sebree plant in Kentucky and became its first manager.

In Montana Sneddon was chairman of the District 6 School Board during construction, equipping and completion in 1959 of the new \$1,700,000 Columbia Falls High School. He was also chairman of the North Valley Hospital board, a past president of Whitefish Rotary and former director of Winter Sports, Inc., operators of Big Mountain.

The Sneddons have two sons, Bruce and Mark, in the U.S. Army, and two grandchildren in Fort Bragg, N.C. where Bruce, a Columbia Falls High and University of Montana graduate is a captain.